Philadelphia February 15th 1839

To the Rector Church Warden
and Vestry of Christ Church

Gentlemen

A copy of a Resolution passed the 18th ult. to wit "That from the records of this Church there is abun-
="dant testimony to prove that Mrs Anna Maria Williams has
"no right to permanent Sittings in Pew N°37 now N°12 Centre
"aisle &c" has been received. but without any copy or intimation of
what the "abundant testimony" is that proves that I have no
right to permanent Sittings &c. The Sittings in question were
transfered to my father in 1806, more than 32 years ago by the
then owners of the pew. They have ever since been in the
constant possession of my family as permanent Sittings.
until the recent alterations in the Church were made, the
validity of my title to them has never been questioned, either
by the Authorities of the Church or (so far as my knowledge goes)
by any other person. Had the Resolution above Quoted, ques-
=tioned the validity of all titles to pews or Sittings, of whose Original
purchase from the Church vouchers or other evidence cannot be found,
I should at least not have cause to complain of partiality, for
it would have placed me on the same footing with many other
old pew-holders whose titles are (as I am informed) similar to
my own. Previous to your acting on the Resolution which you
have passed only in relation to the Sittings which have been

over.

held as I have before stated as undisputed permanent sittings by my family and me many years beyond the period, which alone I understand by the laws. gives a legal title to Real Estate, I respectfully urge upon you as being necessary to impartial action at least, to ascertain how many others are now standing in the names of persons who received them by transfer from former owners. in the same way as mine upon which no claim has ever been made by the Church. If after such investigation it should be the decision of your body that the pews and sittings of all others so situated shall as well as mine be forfeited, I shall have no right to consider it a partial proceeding directed at me alone, until such general action. I respectfully trust the justice & impartiality of the Rector, Church Warden & Vestrymen of Christ Church will induce them either to rescind this Resolution or to suspend all proceeding thereon.

Yours with Respect

Anna Maria Williams

To the Rector Church Warden and
Vestry of Christ Church